

Testimony from Maureen Lopes, citizen of Madison, CT, fabricartlover@gmail.com

I urge the Judiciary Committee to pass HB6355 AN ACT CONCERNING RISK PROTECTION ORDERS OR WARRANTS. My concerns are connected to the women and children who face the risk in their homes. Permitting a family or household member to directly file a complaint makes absolute sense to me. Often these are the people who best know and/or feel threatened by a complainant with gun(s). The family or household member's sworn testimony, to the Superior Court, can be judged directly on the merits of the complaint. This is a detriment from frivolous complaints. It also can take too much time and/or cause unnecessary concerns to go through a state's attorney or police.

Medical professionals also may have knowledge of an individual's situation that creates risk of harm. Why should these professionals have to take time to go thru a state's attorney or police?

Individuals would be given a court hearing to demonstrate that the risk of imminent harm no longer exists before firearms are returned. The removal of guns and ammunition is not permanent if the behavioral risk is addressed.

Please protect women and children, especially during this time of extreme stress, by passing HB 6355 quickly. Thank you